USA Comments AAHC Report - AUGUST 2005

CHAPTER 3.1.4.

INFECTION WITH HAPLOSPORIDIUM NELSONI

Article 3.1.4.3.

Commodities

- 1. When authorising import or transit of the following *commodities*, *Competent Authorities* should not require any *Haplosporidium nelsoni* related conditions, regardless of the *Haplosporidium nelsoni* status of the *exporting country*, *zone* or *compartment*:
 - a) From the species listed in Article 3.1.4.2. for any purpose:
 - i) Commercially-sterile canned or cooked products;
 - ii) Gametes, eggs and larvae;
 - b) The following products destined for human consumption from the species listed in Article 3.1.4.2. which have been prepared in such a way as to minimise the risk for alternative uses (a Member Country may wish to consider the need to introduce internal measures to prevent the commodity being used for any purpose other than for human consumption):
 - i) Chemically Preserved products (e.g. smoked, salted, pickled, marinated, etc ...);
 - ii) ...
 - iii) ...
 - iv) ...
 - c) ...
- 2. ...
- 3. ...

Rationale:

Article 3.1.1.3 1)a: ii) Eggs are gametes, so the use of the term is redundant.

Article 3.1.4.3 1)b)i): Smoking and freeze drying are physical (not chemical) processes.

Article 3.1.4.5.

Haplosporidium nelsoni free zone or free compartment

A zone or compartment free from Haplosporidium nelsoni may be established within the territory of one or more countries of infected or unknown status for infection with Haplosporidium nelsoni and declared free by the Competent Authority(ies) of the country(ies) concerned, if the zone or compartment meets the conditions referred to in points 1), 2), 3) or 4) below.

If a zone or compartment extends over more than one country, it can only be declared a *Haplosporidium nelsoni* free zone or compartment if the conditions outlined below apply to all areas of the zone or compartment.

1. ...

OR

2. In a country of unknown status for *Haplosporidium nelsoni*, a *zone* or *compartment* where the species listed in Article 3.1.4.2. are present but there has never been any observed occurrence of the *disease* for at least the past 10 years despite conditions – in all areas where the species are present – that are conducive to its clinical expression, as described in Chapter X.X.X. of the *Aquatic Manual*, may declare itself free from *Haplosporidium nelsoni* when *basic biosecurity conditions* have been met continuously in the *zone* or *compartment* for at least the past 2 years and infection with *Haplosporidium nelsoni* is not known to be established in wild populations.

OR

3. ...

General Comment: How was the time period of "10 years" become the standard for molluscs? The United States has the same question for all of the mollusc chapters.